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Newsletter

NAEB

JANUARY 1956

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HEADQUARTERS NEWS

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

REPORT ON CNO MEETINGS IN ATLANTIC CITY, DECEMBER 12-14

As most of you know, the CNO is essentially a council containing one representative of each of the member national organizations. In this way it is able to integrate and serve as a source of intercommunication for information from one organization to another. We have been active in the CNO from the first, and are becoming increasingly active in the councils of the AEA.

To start this conference off we had brief talks by the speakers listed below, who provided the "text" (in the biblical sense) for later discussions. Mr. Dexter Keezer, Vice President and Director of the Department of Economics of McGraw-Hill indicated the extent to which Americans are becoming more numerous, richer, and more "churned up." He quoted certain statistics as showing that one out of every five families moves every year. In New York City 2,000 change-of-address cards are filed daily. In the last 10 years the farm population has dropped from 35,000,000 to 22,000,000 with city populations up 14% and suburban populations up 30%.

Unionism and technological advances have given men more leisure than they know what to do with. Empty hours, heads, and hearts, are among our greatest challenges as is the growing world responsibility of the U. S. in foreign policy and world politics.

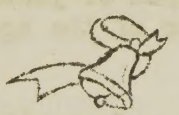

TABLE OF CONTENTS

HEADQUARTERS NEWS 1

BIBLIOGRAPHY 9

RESEARCH 10

BOX SCORE 10

NEWS OF MEMBERS 11

FEATURES 15

AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS 15

TV TECHNICAL TIPS 16

Saul Padover, Dean of the School of Politics at the New School for Social Research, began by pointing out that this was the first time in world history that a genuine political democracy is providing world leadership. Nineteenth century Britain was essentially an aristocracy in its concept of foreign policy. The same was true of France and Spain. As late as 1952 the French people did not really know what was going on in Indo-China because of the usual problem of keeping the people of a nation adequately informed in foreign policy or "state department" areas, which have no local constituencies.

Mr. Padover believes that the Cold War is over and that we are now in the new phase in which both the U.S. and the U.S.S.R. realize that arms parity has been reached, and that war could only mean self-destruction. He echoed the sentiments I reported from the speech of Sir Zafrulla Khan, at the recent UNESCO meeting, in pointing out the surprise which many colonial people have at the attitude we manifest towards them in their efforts to achieve independence from England, France, and other nations, in view of our historic sympathy for colonial peoples and our own history.

Finally he pointed out the great difficulty of making the United States appear concerned with the world when 5% of the world's people which constitute the United States produce and consume over 60% of the world's goods and wealth while three-quarters of the world's people are at this moment hungry and ill-clothed. The ease with which Communists and Neutralists alike can challenge us and doubt us in view of these facts should make clear the greatness of the problem we face.

Leo Rosten, presently Special Editorial Advisor to LOOK magazine, but well-known to most radio and television broadcasters, began by discussing the problems arising from the growth of leisure. People no longer aim at getting money as they used to, since many have enough money now and find that more money does not bring more happiness. This prosperity, and the growth of the suburbs, means increasingly the story of an uprooted people, and of a re-shuffling of values. (EDITOR'S NOTE: I wonder if one of the most important things being overlooked in presidents' conferences and all other educational discussions, is not the fact that we are still planning as if people were still rooted to their community in the same way they were years ago? The perpetuation of the stereotypes of yesterday in our concepts of community activities, schools, the problems of the aged, etc. all indicate inability to think in new terms.)

Mr. Rosten pointed out the great tragedy that has arisen from witch-hunts and investigations which have caused fear of speaking one's mind frequently in many areas. Ideas, however liberal or radical, must be heard. Ideas can be tested better in discussion than in acts. We have achieved more change by legislation, discussion and debate than it used to be possible to achieve without revolution or bloodshed.

As groups grow larger (the recent labor merger being one illustration), they need to put society's total needs ahead of their own private or specialized ones. These are then responsibilities of responsible associations. Finally, following a discussion of the number of scientists now being produced in the U.S.S.R., the percentage of the national income which Russia is now pouring into this field, and a look at the reasons why so many U.S. students shun science (the vilification, humiliation and/or publicity which scientists of today are frequently exposed to), Mr. Rosten said that if he could have one wish it would be that people could <u>think better</u>. The development of better thinking is the job of the schools as well as all such groups as are associated with the CNO.

In a discussion which followed, many important things were said. One of the most amazing statements was made by Dr. Arthur Adams, President of the American Council on Education, who reported that only 249 physics teachers were graduated in 1954, a mere drop in the bucket of the needs of some 25,000 schools for science teachers. And only one-half of these ended in the classrooms. (EDITOR'S NOTE: This certainly points up the need for us to develop as much as possible the uses of radio and television in helping to meet the increasingly critical shortages of teachers and courses in the science areas.)

It was pointed out that one of the forces not adequately represented at our conference was the advertising fraternity, which in a way is one of the largest and most powerful forces in the world in the conditioning of attitudes which, if good, is called education. They condition us daily on a budget of eight to nine billion dollars per year in all sorts of ways.

Partly as a result of this conditioning too many people know things that are not so. Advertising claims and other uses of these media have made it extremely difficult for us to know the real truth and to preserve our sense of values. Consequently the picture of us which our enemies present around the world is difficult for us to prove wrong.

The inseparability of our acts from foreign policy also came up. One illustration of the inseparability of the two came up in a discussion of a visit by a representative of Saudi-Arabia to the United States. He was greatly embarrassed on a number of occasions by being taken for a Negro, with all the humiliation which this subjected him to in various situations. His bitterness, upon his return, is thought to be the single greatest reason why the United States lost out on a contract in his country and why we do not enjoy a better reputation there today.

Other problems which came up for important consideration: failure to use what we do know scientifically in our teaching of discussion and critical thinking; the inadequacy with which our leadership is being re-educated to meet change; the need for the creation of a more permissive climate for thinking freely, for expressing unpopular ideas without being considered either disloyal or unpatriotic; the need to encourage locally, within our own organizations, the sort of free exchange of ideas, however unpopular, that we have at such conventions; the need to evaluate ourselves and our activities more; and the great need for better interpretation and communication to our own members as well as with other organizations.

In this connection I suggested that the usual monthly packets of material distributed by the CNO to each member (materials from each member and each representative) be discontinued because of the extent to which this plethora of materials clogs the channels of communication, in our office at least. However most organizations felt that these packets should be continued and that what we don't use or need can more economically be thrown away at that time. (On this problem see elsewhere in this Newsletter a discussion of the critical stage being reached in answering questions, questionnaires, etc.)

Among some of the reccmmendations which came out of the CNO meeting were: one to change the name of the Television Committee to the Broadcasting Committee; proposals to increase the representation on this committee by adding representatives of the NAEB, the NARTB and the AERT; an offer on our part to cooperate in setting up community workshops; and an invitation by us to consider any ideas available in

areas in which our Program Planning Committee has recommended prestige series if possible, and certainly emphasize: the areas of industrialization, gerontology and mental health. The above are all ideas which I proposed and which in whole, or in modified form, were adopted.

Other recommendations came in the discussion of ways of involving all members, not only representatives to the CNO, in CNO work and findings. Without boasting, I believe that the extent to which we attempt to keep our membership informed of the results of our trips and conferences is almost unique. Someday I would greatly appreciate your comment on this point.

Other items taken up were the possibilities of a workshop to consider ways of handling controversial issues, a forthcoming pamphlet on the evaluation of materials, problems of financing (the need to secure contributions from all organizations on a fair basis), the question of how business concerns, which do not fit the definition of national organizations, might be either affiliated or in some way enabled to assist in CNO financing and other activities, and consideration of TV Community Workshops in which I agreed to our whole-hearted co-operation.

Any Questions?

I have just received a letter which begins "I have been terrifically impressed of late with the number and length of questionnaires, letters, etc., etc., seeking all types of information in regard to educational TV operations, - everything up to what I wear to work.

"I am heartily in favor of widespread knowledge about these things, but it isn't possible to do justice to all of them. Our budget doesn't provide a full time information-supplier."

I think this is a common affliction. A few days ago I asked our staff to prepare a listing of the alphabetical agencies alone, many of them like ourselves, with which we exchange material and from which we receive regular questionnaires. The list alone ran to several pages. John Behnke, of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, reported to us at the recent CNO meeting that there are 23,000 biological journals alone in the world---some 6,000 or so of which are in the United States. I didn't believe this figure, and asked him to confirm it later. He did. The extent to which our mail as well as yours is becoming overloaded and replete with questionnaires, materials, invitations to join or urgent appeals for answers to several questions, presents an increasingly baffling problem. As is quite natural, a great many of you refer these inquiries to us and we assure you that we make every effort to answer as many of them as we can. I often take a brief case full home at night in order to get caught up. Requests for information come from teachers, students, women's clubs, a couple of hundred alphabetical agencies, schools planning radio and/or television, magazines planning articles, research groups and individual researchers, and all sorts of business concerns. It has gotten to the point where it is impossible for us to answer or even acknowledge all of these with individual letters. In many cases you will hear from someone else, other than the person you addressed. This is because the work load, and the specialization required, can better be handled by referral, or drafting by the ones closest to the problem. Oftentimes also I'm away, and waiting for my return would unduly delay replies. All correspondence is therefore handled pretty much on a staff basis.

The staff we maintain is big enough to handle all membership relations and the most critical of these other problems. But unfortunately most of the replies we give must now be in the form of lists of material available which the questioner may look over and check or request, hastily handwritten notes which may be written at home, on planes, in railroad stations or elsewhere, or other admittedly inadequate acknowledgements and replies. We wish it were not so.

We shall continue to try to get courteous help to every legitimate requester of such help, but beg you to understand that the problems resulting from overbombardment with all kinds of materials is giving us at least as much trouble as it is giving you. We'll always try to do the best we can to answer questionnaires and give you the information you need, and believe that you will have to exercise the same judgment. Whenever an inquiry which comes to you seems to you to be the kind which we might be able to handle by the sending of information which you know that we have available, we invite you to refer it to us. However, we hope that you realize that the number of individual letters or replies which we can make to routine inquiries and particularly to the inquiries of individual students is strictly limited. If a whole class is involved we move heaven and earth to get the information. We do not feel that we can take time from other functions or from serving the many for the average (often high school or undergraduate) student's request which is generally fairly detailed, and hope you will help us to explain why. This is not to say they are not important. It is only to say that we are not set up to handle them on an individual basis.

Reaction Invited

I have been very conscientious in attempting to keep the membership well informed about my comings and goings and of the operations of the Headquarters staff. I would like your opinion on whether or not this material is being heaped on you too abundantly, and how you react to such specific things as my digest of THE AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGIST, various book reviews, reports of trips, and so forth. Do not fear to hurt our feelings since we ourselves are somewhat concerned lest materials from us are taking up too much space in the Newsletter. Please give us the benefit of your thinking.

Meeting with Kellogg Foundation Representatives Postponed

On December 2, Mrs. Frank Schooley's mother passed away. The funeral was held on December 5. This required postponement of the conference which President Schooley and Executive Director Skornia had planned with the Kellogg Foundation. This meeting is now scheduled for January 6 and will be reported on in the next Newsletter.

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A request for information on the use of television and radio in teaching reading has come into NAEB Headquarters. If any of you have information on this subject please sent it to NAEB Headquarters.

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES SOLICITED

As you have no doubt noticed we gradually have been making changes in the style and format of the Newsletter. These changes (which are a result of recommendations by the Public Relations Policy committee, comments from individual members, and our own staff thinking) are all designed gradually to make the Newsletter a publication more worthy of representing educational broadcasting in the United States.

In this same vein, we would welcome the submission of articles on topics pertinent to the NAEB, educational broadcasting and broadcasters, the general educational scene, etc. These articles, for which we unfortunately can not pay, would be carefully screened by several members of the Headquarters staff for possible use in the Newsletter. Since this is a new venture, we would welcome your suggestions and ideas as well as your articles. You might want to suggest possible authors for particular topics, themes on which series of articles might be written, etc.

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SWISS BROADCASTING CORPORATION BROADCASTS PRIX ITALIA WINNER

The Swiss Broadcasting Corporation (Societe Suisse de Radiodiffusion) broadcast "December," the NAEB sponsored Prix Italia winner, on Thursday, December 15, 1955. The program was broadcast over both Radio-Lausanne and the Swiss Shortwave Service.

"December," a dramatic cantata for radio for singing and speaking voices with wind instruments and percussion, was given its premier over WNYC, New York City Municipal Station, on July 18, 1955. The text of "December" was written by Maeve Olen and the music by Henry Brant.

The broadcast by the Swiss Broadcasting Corporation was arranged through Seymour N. Siegel, Director of WNYC and chairman of the NAEB International Relations Committee.

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NAEB CONSULTATION TEAM VISITS KUON-TV

The second NAEB Consultation Team made a visit to KUON-TV at Lincoln, Nebraska on December 5, 6 and 7. This visit, like that made to Detroit in June and reported in the July Newsletter, was made possible by an experimental grant by the Fund for Adult Education. Visits are conducted by the NAEB in collaboration with the Educational Television and Radio Center at Ann Arbor. Objectives of the experiment are the improvement of program development, production and operation, including facilities, on the part of local educational television stations.

Makeup of the team for the visit to Lincoln was as follows:

Dr. Armand Hunter, Director WKAR-TV, Michigan State University
Dr. John Ross Winnie, Chief of TV Production, State University of Iowa
Mr. Jack Chenoweth, Chief Engineer KETC, St. Louis Educational Television Commission
Mr. Cecil S. Bidlack, NAEB Television Engineer

The program of the visit was arranged by Mr. Jack McBride, Director of KUON-TV, who had every minute of the team's visit scheduled. Late trains and planes delayed the team's arrival Sunday evening December 4, but at 8 a.m. Monday, December 5, the consultations began on schedule.

Three definite objectives were outlined for the team by Mr. McBride:

1) Inspection and recommendations for the utilization of two possible sites in existing University structures for a campus studio for KUON-TV.

2) Inspection of live and film television equipment donated by KOLN-TV and recommendations for the additional equipment necessary to provide for a single studio live and film operation with sufficient flexibility to provide programming for four hours per day.

3) Recommendations as to program, production, and engineering staff and a realistic operating budget. Estimates of the cost of converting present structures into studio, control, office and work space, as well as estimated cost of additional operating equipment were to be provided.

In addition to the pick and shovel work occasioned by the above objectives, the Consultation Team met twice in conference with Dr. Clifford M. Hardin, Chancellor of the University of Nebraska, and had a dinner meeting and an evening session with the Television Committee of the University. Thus much opportunity was provided for a frank discussion of the problems concerned with the operation of an educational television station. The team also worked and ate with the staff of KUON-TV and met and talked with many of the faculty who will be involved, provided the team's recommendations are followed.

KUON-TV at present is operating 9-12 a.m. Monday through Friday from the studios of KOLN-TV where the KUON-TV transmitter is located. Prior to December 1 this was no problem since KOLN-TV did not sign on until noon. Since December 1, KOLN-TV goes on the air at 7 a.m. and KUON-TV at 9 a.m. with both stations using the same live studio, control room and film and slide facilities. To say that bedlam reigns at times is an understatement, though no blows had been struck after a week's operation in this unconventional arrangement. Officials of both stations realize that this impossible situation cannot continue indefinitely. However, the team accomplished its threefold mission and left recommendations for future action by University of Nebraska officials.

In his report of the Team's visit to KUON-TV, Mr. McBride says: "We feel that the Team visit was extremely successful and accomplished every one of the objectives. The reaction from this end was one of wonderment at the amount of work completed during the short three day period. The University now has answers to every question regarding a move from the present temporary location to permanent quarters on campus. We feel quite hopeful for the future and, as I said in the final report, any future action will be a direct outgrowth of the Team's visit. We will be indebted to the Team members, the NAEB, and the Fund for Adult Education for a long time."

This experimental grant by the FAE covering visits of TV consultation teams expires April 1, 1956. It enables the NAEB to offer, at no cost to educational television centers desirous of having the service, consultation teams to assist with training, planning, operation and other functions. If your TV station would like to avail itself of this service, write to the Executive Director with a short statement

of your need, the number of persons you believe should be provided to assist you, whether these consultants' services could efficiently be used as a team, and approximate dates. As a part of the NAEB's overall effort to help in the upgrading of personnel and operations, it is believed that this service, if it proves worthwhile, might become one of our more important regular approaches to provide the help stations so often need.

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NETWORK NEWS

At this writing, the first issue of tapes for 1956 is being completed. The Network Headquarters is attempting to push somewhat ahead in its mailing schedule in order that shipments may not be overly delayed by the Christmas mail rush.

Not only has another season started for the Network Headquarters, but it is time to finish our planning for yet the next season. And as soon as a little more information is gathered, the spring offering will be mimeographed and put into the mail.

We shall not say definitely what every series included in the offering will be, but we shall tell you something about the most probable series. Among them is a new ten-program series from WNYC and the Cooper Union Forum called SOME PSYCHOLOGICAL PROBLEMS OF EVERYDAY LIVING. Among the topics discussed in this lecture series are "Personality Problems," "The Constructive Uses of Anxiety," and "Origins of Love and Hate." Among the speakers are Gardner Murphy, Alexandra Adler, Flanders Dunbar, and M. F. Ashley-Montagu.

Two series from the RDTF are VOICES OF FRANCE IN CHORUS SING and FRANCE AT WORK. The former, a series of thirteen one-hour programs, is of course music. The latter is a series of thirteen half-hour programs on the resources, industries, facilities, etc. of France. It is done in dialogue form from the point-of-view of an American journalist touring France.

A new BBC THEATRE series of thirteen programs will be composed mainly of one-hour features such as a portrait of George Bernard Shaw, a program about George Borrow, and the story of curare. But two programs will each consist of two half-hour features and two others will each include two half-hour dramas - just for a change of pace. As far as possible, all of these programs have been selected with an eye to their dramatic treatment of worthwhile subject matter. The Network Headquarters is keeping in mind its stations' need for good dramatic programs.

The Network Headquarters intends to include two new Grant-in-Aid series in the offering, and the previously offered Grant-in-Aid series MUSIC IN THE MAKING will be continued for a second thirteen programs. Other series which will continue include STORIES N STUFF (WILL), OVER THE BACK FENCE (CBC) and FRENCH PRESS REVIEW (RDTF). The story of THE EVOLUTION OF JAZZ (WGBH) will continue through Issue #23 (for the week of June 3).

What Are Your Call Letters?

A special note to members of the NAEB Radio Network: When you return your completed order forms for program series, PLEASE DO NOT NEGLECT TO FILL IN YOUR STATION CALL LETTERS.

After every offering a number of order forms bearing no identification other than a signature appear on the Network Traffic Manager's desk. This signature often leads to information as to what station submitted the order - but sometimes it does not.

Therefore - if your station is a member of the Network, please request the person ordering new series to write your station call letters on the order form - without fail. Thank you.

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On A Tape Recorder
By Stanton A. Coblentz

Out of these turning reels, this dialed machine,
Our laughter and speech of many moons ago
Rings out as clear as if no void between
Had stretched with the long seasons' drift and flow.
And may it chance that we, we only move,
While time, which stands with crystal fixety,
Sees us flit by like tape within a groove
That passing, sets a tale or music free?

And if our voices, silenced by the years,
Can shout to mock the sovereignty of chance
May not some listener catch, with haunted ears,
The chant of epochs as they whirl and range,
And in one deathless instant, hold the chime
Of atoms and suns beyond the slope of time?

(New York Times, November 22)

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(Educational TV as a teacher-saving idea to meet the demands of increased enrollment.)

Hazard, Leland. "Educational Television." Atlantic 196:5, November 1955. p. 61.

Lehman, Milton. "TV's Colossal Hassle." Saturday Evening Post 228:18, October 29, 1955. p. 28.
(About toll TV.)

"Tryout for New UHF Medicine." Business Week 1364, October 22, 1955. p. 94.
("Scranton station, proposing a dose of self-help for UHF, plans setup that would test out signal strength and coverage, filling a big gap in UHF know-how.")

RESEARCH

SURVEY RESULTS OF ETV PROGRAM INTERESTS AND OPINIONS

The findings returned in the Special Educational Television Survey of Television Program Interests conducted by the Illinois Congress of Parents and Teachers in cooperation with the Division of Radio and Television of the Chicago Public Schools have been announced. The survey, designed not to serve any one educational television channel, but to be used as widely as possible, was conducted over a two-year period (1953-1955) in those communities which would be served by the proposed seven educational television channels allocated to the State of Illinois.

Opinions were gathered on the types of programs that would be to the best interests of the community and the type of presentation generally preferred. The subject of what programs were most suitable for children was covered and respondents were asked to name which programs, of those presently offered by commercial stations, were best suited for various age groups. "Ding-Dong School" headed the list for the very young children, "Mr. Wizard" for the elementary school age children and "Omnibus" for high school students.

Many varied opinions were gathered on the question "What community services do you feel we have a right to expect of the new educational television stations?" Some of these are as follows: "Attempt to make viewers aware of civic responsibilities." "A concerted 'CLEAN UP' Campaign and actually DO something about it!" "Programs to help parents realize the school cannot be alone in teaching and helping its students." "We have a right to expect more teaching in helping children to do things for themselves; to instill imagination in their minds for creative ability." "Programs to supplement the teaching program at the school level and also to provide some measure of adult education."

Some suggestions that were received included the advice that educational television should be kept simple and not made to appeal only to the intellectual.

For further information about this survey write to Miss Elizabeth E. Marshall, Assistant Director of Radio & TV, Board of Education, 228 N. LaSalle Street, Chicago 1, Illinois.

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NEWS OF MEMBERS

GENERAL

For the fourth consecutive year IOWA TV SCHOOLTIME, televised by Station WOI-TV Monday through Friday at 1:30 p.m., has found increased acceptance among the schools of central Iowa. 38,277 boys and girls in 1,380 classrooms now view TV SCHOOLTIME regularly each week. This is an increase of 5% over last year. These figures were revealed by WOI-TV in a recent survey of the schools in the viewing area.

These 38,277 young viewers represent 1,380 different classrooms with an average of 28 pupils per classroom watching the programs. A total of 261 schools, 35 percent of all schools in the WOI-TV 100-mile coverage radius, now have television sets in their classrooms.

The TV SCHOOLTIME series is aired by WOI-TV through the cooperation of the Iowa Joint Committee on Educational Television. The committee represents the State University of Iowa, Iowa State Teachers College, Iowa State College, and the State Department of Public Instruction.

TV SCHOOLTIME Teacher Study Guides for the second semester are available upon request by writing to Station WOI-TV, Ames, Iowa.

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The regents board of the University of the State of New York recommended December 16 that the state appropriate $975,000 for educational television, including a TV station in Albany and another in New York City. The committee report stated, "Although there is need for further experimentation, research and evaluation before the full potential of this can be realized, the initial steps for establishing television as a part of the educational program of the state of New York should no longer be delayed."

(Associated Press, December 16)

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Radio Station WMCR, Western Michigan College, is again helping foreign students send Christmas greetings to their homes. A four minute chat by the student is taken on tape and then transfered to a regular 10 inch phonograph record and sent to the home of the student. In many cases it is the only vocal contact that the student has had with his family for many years.

***

Miami University at Oxford, Ohio, has as its latest activity in telecommunications the Experimental Study in Instructional Procedures. This study, which was made possible through a grant from the Fund for the Advancement of Education, will provide for a study of the problem of how to provide for the numerous students soon to converge on the nation's universities and colleges. One of the four areas to be covered in the study is the use of closed circuit television as a means of teaching greater numbers of students.

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PROGRAMS

WTTW, Chicago ETV station, started a series of programs interpreting the Roman Catholic, Protestant and Jewish religions on Wednesday, December 14. Working together in producing the series are the Rt. Rev. Msgr. John McCarthy, representing the Catholic Archdiocese of Chicago; Dr. John Harms, Executive Secretary of the Church Federation of Greater Chicago; and Rabbi Leonard Mervis, representing the Chicago Rabbinical Association. The three groups will present programs on alternate weeks in order determined by lot.

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A device that helps save thousands of gallons of gasoline in jet airplanes was featured on WTTW on December 12 in the first of a series of science programs produced by Illinois Institute of Technology. The program dealt with the "vortex tube," which saves jet fuel by taking advantage of natural air currents, and some of the problems relating to high speed flight and the thermal barrier. The weekly series--titled "Research File"--will deal with recent scientific and technological developments.

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The "Schooltime" department of WQED, Pittsburgh's Educational TV station, began the last part of the fall semester with four new programs for presentation on in-school telecasts. The programs which are designed to enrich classroom lessons will cover art, dramatics, music, and an informal discussion of the problems of fourth and fifth graders at home and in school.

Another WQED show, "Children's Corner," was named the best local children's television show in the nation by the Sylvania Television Awards. The award was presented November 29 at the Starlight Roof of the Waldorf-Astoria.

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WGBH-TV, Boston's noncommercial television station, telecast the Harvard-Yale debate on December 12. The debate was judged by three judges who were not within the debating hall, but rather seated in a studio completely isolated from the students. The judges watched the debate on the television screen like many viewers and selected the winners on that basis.

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The University of Alabama Music Department and Broadcasting Services gave a two-hour live presentation of Puccini's opera "La Boheme" on November 30 over the two ETV stations of the Alabama Educational TV Commission, WBIQ, Birmingham, and WTIQ, Mumford. This was the first complete opera telecast by an educational TV station.

***

The nation's educational television viewers were treated to a "Mystery" program in December, but it wasn't the kind with hurrying detectives. Instead, it was the presentation of the story of "The Atom" distributed by the Educational Television and Radio Center. Dr. Edward Teller told the story of the atom in three programs using a variety of materials for illustration.

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WNYC, New York, presented the world premiere of a new musical fantasy by George Kleinsinger, "The Tree That Found Christmas." Based on the story of Christopher Morley, "The Tree That Found Christmas" is another highly original composition of the composer who has been well represented in the Little Orchestra Society Children's Concerts.

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Michigan State University students presented an original drama by one of their instructors during the Workshop Theatre program December 8 over WKAR-TV. Workshop Theatre, a year long series, is unusual in providing students of comparative acting techniques the opportunity to work in a live telecast situation with various directors.

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Anne Russell, concert comedienne, was recently the guest of Kevin Wheeler over Radio Station WILL, University of Illinois. Miss Russell commented upon musical satire and how she developed her concerts, or "do's" as she calls them.

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Denver Public Schools, on the December 6 program of their series "Preschool Time," presented over KLZ-TV the relationship of a child to his relatives. It pointed out that with the visiting relatives the child's viewpoint is broadened to include a much larger world. Also covered in the program were difference of opinions between grandparents and parents.

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FORD FOUNDATION GRANTS TO JCET AND ETRC

Three grants from the Ford Foundation totalling $6,493,840 in support of educational television were announced jointly December 17 by Ralph Lowell, chairman of the Board of the Educational Television and Radio Center and by Albert N. Jorgensen, chairman of the newly created Joint Council on Educational Television. "These grants will aid materially in efforts directed at the coordination and expansion of educational television and will mean the wider and more effective utilization of the channels reserved for educational stations," the two officials declared.

The largest grant of $6,263,340 was made to the ETRC to cover major operating costs of the organization from 1957 through 1959, according to Center President H. K. Newburn. It will be possible with this support to accelerate the Center's program service to educational television stations both quantatively and qualitatively, he said. By 1959 the Center will be able to distribute approximately double the five hours weekly of television programs which are now made available on film to the nation's educational stations. Funds also will be available for expanding radio program production and for more comprehensive activities in research and audience evaluation.

A grant of $140,000 for the year 1956 was made to the Joint Council on Educational Television, a new organization built upon the earlier Joint Committee on Educational Television which from the beginning has done much to organize educators and others in support of educational television. This Council, which will be more

widely representative than the earlier organization, will continue to work toward the preservation and utilization of those channels reserved by the Federal Communications Commission for educational television and radio stations.

The third grant for $90,500 also awarded to the Educational Television and Radio Center will be used to continue certain activities which for the past three years have been the responsibility of the staff of the National Citizens Committee for Educational Television.

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BBC HANDBOOK AVAILABLE

The BBC Handbook 1956 is now available for those who would like to learn more about the BBC operation. The Handbook not only explains what the BBC is and how it works, but is also contains facts and figures on current broadcasting. To complete the Handbook facts are given about the BBC's foreign operation, both rebroadcasting of BBC programs and the shortwave operation. The handbook is available from the British Broadcasting Corporation, 630 Fifth Avenue, New York 20, for the sum of 75¢.

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AFL-CIO ENDORSES EDUCATIONAL TV

The recent AFL-CIO convention went on record as endorsing the continuance of reservation of television channels for educational stations. The statement adopted by the convention said: "We believe that educational TV has proved its value where stations have been established and we insist that the Federal Communications Commission continue to reserve the channels exclusively for educational purposes. All TV educational stations should have an operating committee fully representative of all interests in the community." The convention also adopted a resolution opposing "the granting by the Federal Communications Commission of licenses permitting 'Pay Television.'"

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The new 1956 World Radio and Television Handbook is now available. It is a special 10th anniversary edition which is available for $2.00 from World Radio and Television Handbook, Lindorffsalle 1, Hellerup, Denmark.

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Thanks to you all for the many Christmas cards and good wishes, many with personal notes. They are deeply appreciated, even though we can't acknowledge all which deserve it. Sincere thanks for us all.

H. J. Sk.

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The National Association of Educational Broadcasters has available some of the outstanding programs produced in the past on LP records. Among the albums that are available are "Ways of Mankind" Series I and II, "Jeffersonian Heritage" and "People Under Communism." These albums may be obtained for $25 from NAEB, 14 Gregory Hall, Urbana, Illinois

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FEATURES

THE BOOK OF LITTLE KNOWLEDGE BY GOODMAN ACE, SIMON & SCHUSTER, NEW YORK, 1955. 183 PP. $2.95

Goodman Ace has here gathered some of his more durable columns from The Saturday Review. As you probably know, Mr. Ace has written some of the most entertaining radio and television scripts and at one time held forth on his own program, "Easy Aces."

Mr. Ace's book is divided into seven sections: I Writers, and Other Tragic Figures; II Ratings, and Other Comic Figures; III Commercials, and Other Astronomical Figures; IV Politics and TV; V People; VI Programs; and VII TriVia. Most of the short articles are as light weight as the majority of the section titles, but some statements are worth discussion - for instance, the assertion "that television is radio with the added dimension of a little sight." The adjective "little" is important to Mr. Ace's meaning.

Rating: A good bedside book; but not to be read on office time.

AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

The French Government is offering approximately thirty university fellowships through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and forty teaching assistantships through the Ministry of Education. The fellowship awards are for students with definite academic projects or study plans. The assistantships afford language teaching experience and an opportunity to become better acquainted with France. Nominations of candidates for fellowships and assistantships will be made by a joint committee of French and American educators working in cooperation with the French Cultural Services and Institute of International Education. The awards are open to men and women preferably under 30 years of age. Eligibility requirements are: U.S. citizen; bachelor's degree from an American college or university; good academic record; good knowledge of French; correct usage of English; good moral character, personality and adaptability; and good health. Teaching assistants will teach conversational English in secondary schools and teacher training institutions in France and Graduate fellowships are open to students in all fields of study. The awards provide maintenance and in the case of the fellowships, tuitions. Closing date for application is February 1, 1956. For further information write to Kenneth Holland, President of the Institute of International Education, 1 East 67th Street, New York, New York.

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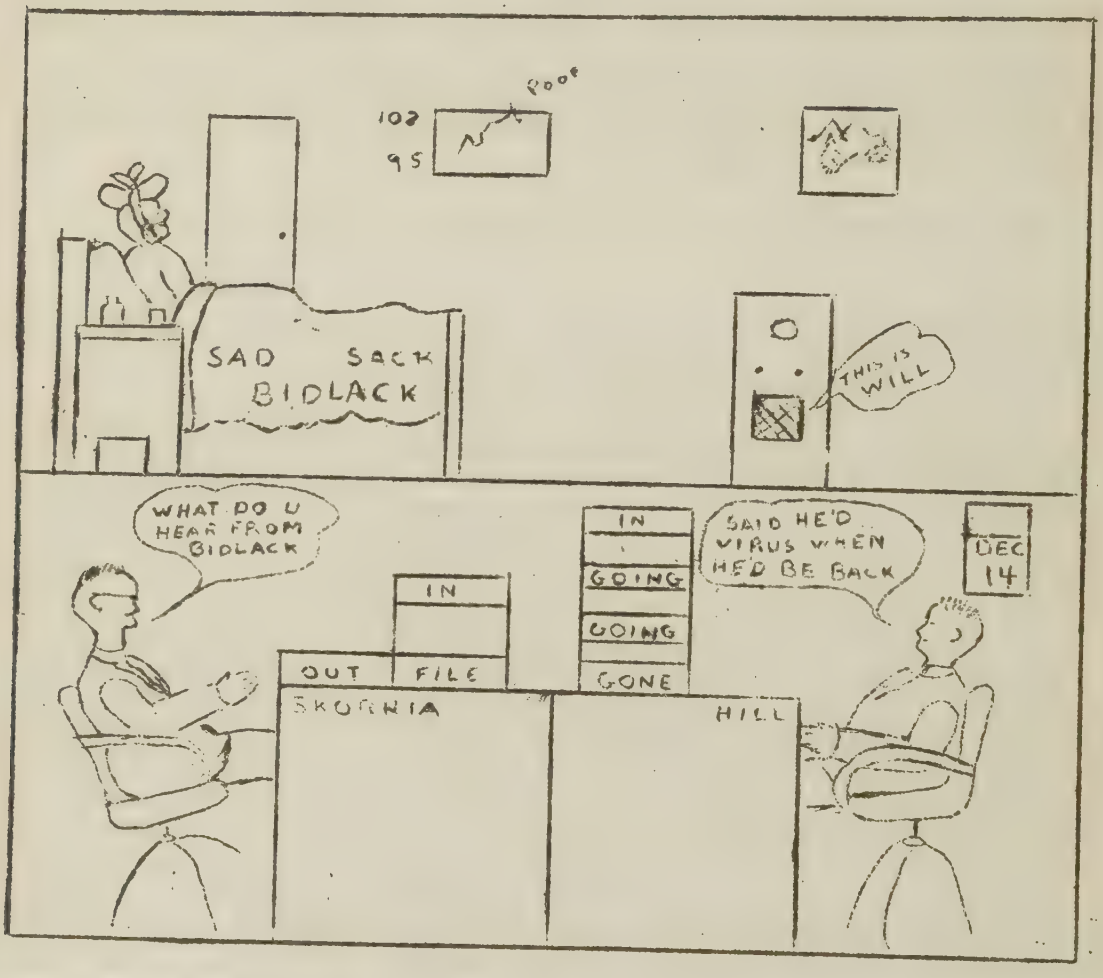
Did you know that the NAEB, as an educational, non-profit, tax-exempt organization, is eligible to receive bequests and gifts?

For anyone who wishes to make a contribution to American Education, the NAEB represents a natural channel, particularly for someone with Communications interests.

TV Technical Tips No. 16

By Cecil S. Bidlack, NAEB TV Engineer

We didn't expect to have much of a column for this issue as the deadline found your reporter at home battling a virus in his bronchial tubes. However, now that we're back on the job we'll be able to fill out a page. At any rate here's our tip for the month - "Never trifle with a cold virus. It just isn't healthy."



We are always happy to know that people read this column and especially so when they take time to write in answer to our pleas for help.

We were pleased to have a letter from Raymond Cheydleur of the Florida State University in answer to our request, in the December Newsletter, to hear from those using Auricon cameras with TV shutters for making kinescope recordings. They were expecting to receive their camera as this is being written and are anxious to try it out for kinescope purposes. Ray says they'll be glad to pass on their experience with the Auricon hoping that others may benefit. We'd be happy to hear from others with this equipment.

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"Cy" Braum has sent us a copy of the "Federal Register" of December 9 (Vol. 20, No. 239) which includes the AM,FM and TV rules and Engineering Standards up-to-date as of November 3. Copies are available from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C. for twenty-five cents (25¢) each.

This publication is one that each Chief Engineer of an AM, FM or TV station should have since it contains Part 3 of the FCC's Rules and Regulations covering all Broadcast Services and also Standards of Good Engineering Practice of Standard Broadcast Stations. This revision is effective January 2, 1956. These rules will of course be reprinted in the usual FCC rule format and will be available from the Government Printing Office; however, at this time no date has been set.

All those considering applying for any class of broadcast license should also have the above material since necessary procedures for applications are outlined therein.

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The FCC has also proposed rule making on an approved CONELRAD Plan for Noncommercial Educational FM and the International FM Services. This is outlined in Public Notice 25602 which may be secured by writing to the FCC requesting same.

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SWAP SHOP

Elmer G. Sulzer, Director of Radio and TV Communications, Indiana University (Bloomington) would like to purchase a Western Electric 618 dynamic microphone. Since this type of microphone was discontinued a number of years ago, Sulzer would appreciate any word you might have about one being available.

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Norman E. C. Maill, VPI Motion Picture Unit Manager has the following "slightly used," since July 1955, Bell and Howell camera equipment for sale. He states the equipment is in "excellent condition haveing had very little use to date. The usual B & H guarantee will go with it."

The equipment for sale consists of two outfits each with:

1 - 16mm Bell and Howell 70DH with single frame attachment; o.7", f2.5, Super Comat lens; 1", f1.4, Cooke Ivotal lens; 2.8", f2.3 Cooke Pancrotal lens; all with matching objective viewfinders.

1 - Bell and Howell 115 volt, 60 cy., 0.9 amp. 24fps cyncronous motor.

2 - Bell and Howell 400' magazines.

1 - Bell and Howell case which holds the camera, motor, 2 magazines and accessories.

We can sell these outfits for $1300 each, plus shipping and insurance costs.

If you are interested please contact Mr. Maill directly at Virginia Polytechnic Institute, Radio-Motion Picture-Television Service, Blacksburg, Virginia.

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The N-A-E-B NEWS-LETTER, published monthly, is distributed from the national headquarters office at Urbana, Illinois. N-A-E-B members and associate members receive the NEWS-LETTER as part of membership service. Non-members may obtain the publication at a subscription rate of $5.00 per year. All inquiries regarding subscriptions and editorial matters should be addressed to: NAEB, 14 Gregory Hall, Urbana, Illinois.